Title: Demand for construction of bridge over river Brahmaputra at Bogibeel, Dibrugarh, Assam.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (DIBRUGARH): I want to draw the personal attention of the hon. Prime Minister to an important issue concerning the people of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. After continuous demand from the people, the then Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Devegowda laid the foundation stone of a bridge over the river Brahmaputra at Bogbeel in 1996. During the last five years, not a single brick was laid at the work site. The Government had announced in the special package that they would be providing Rs.1000 crore for the bridge. The construction work was given to the Railways. But no work has started as yet. Again, another movement is starting in that region of the country.

When they have promised it, when the hon. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the bridge, they have to start the construction of that bridge. This is a great insult to the people of the North-Eastern region.

Sir, through you, I urge upon the Government that they should not play with the people of the North-Eastern region like this. When they have decided, they should start the work. That work should not take more than five years. It is already more than five years since the foundation stone was laid. Nothing is going on there.

So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to personally look into this and take appropriate steps in this regard. Thank you.